

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

April 28, 2022

Honorable David Price, Chair  
Subcommittee on Transportation and  
and Urban Development  
Committee on Appropriations  
2108 Rayburn House Office Building  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Honorable Mario Diaz-Balart, Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Transportation and Housing  
Housing and Urban Development  
Committee on Appropriations  
404 Cannon House Office Building  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chair Price and Ranking Member Diaz-Balart:


I am requesting funding for the Midtown Connector Project in fiscal year 2023. The entity to receive funding for this project is MCP Foundation, Inc., located at 864 Spring St. NW, Atlanta, GA 30308. The project location is at the I-75 and I-85 connector in Midtown Atlanta.

The growing population of Metro Atlanta has increased traffic on the Connector and local street network, which creates more congestion, delays, and automobile crashes, and contributes to environmental hazards such as poor water and air quality, significant noise, and lack of public greenspace. Additionally, the increased traffic makes traveling around, to, and through Midtown more difficult. The Midtown Connector Project (MCP) seeks to reconnect the neighborhoods of central Atlanta by creating a seminal destination that recaptures land lost through the unanticipated consequences of a single-purpose past to a more vibrant, sustainable, equitable, and multi-purpose future. The MCP project area begins on I-75/I-85 north at Exit 84 (southbound) and extends south to Exit 249D (northbound), with the majority of improvements focused between North Avenue and 10th Street, including a deck/tunnel structure approximately 5/8 of a mile in length.

This project is a good use of taxpayer funds because it will reconnect Midtown and comprehensively address several issues through one solution - a deck over the Connector from North Avenue to 10th Street. A place for the benefit for all of Metro Atlanta, the Midtown Connector Project will expand and improve multi-modal mobility while producing exciting and memorable open space experiences that elevate the visual beauty, art, and architecture of Atlanta. Adjacent to Atlanta's central business district and approximately 0.5 miles from Atlanta's "Westside" neighborhoods, this undertaking will enhance economic vitality, provide ecological and environmental restoration, increase access to social, cultural, and natural assets, and shine as a beacon for the Capital core.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nikema Williams', with a stylized flourish at the end.

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Nikema Williams  
Member of Congress